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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/705,181	11/10/2003	Ian D. Hegerty	5598/154US	4662

		EXAMINER
7590	10/26/2006	SERRAO, RANODHI N

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ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2141	

DATE MAILED: 10/26/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 10/03)

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
Office Action Summary	10/705,181	HEGERTY ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Ranodhi Serrao	2141	

-- *The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address* --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>11 September 2006</u>.

2a)☐ This action is **FINAL.**   2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) <u>2-24</u> is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) <u>2-24</u> is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All· b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified·copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6)☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set

forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this

application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set

forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action

has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 11

September 2006 has been entered.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 22-24 have been considered but are

moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

3. The applicant argued that the prior art references fail to teach the invention as

claimed. However, the newly cited reference(s) teach these features. See below

rejections.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can

be found in a prior Office action.

5. Claims 2-4, 20-21, and 24 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being

unpatentable over Wilson et al. (2005/0114484) and Zha et al. (7,028,027).

6.   As per claim 24, Wilson et al. teaches a method of determining a countrytag for a

website on a network (see Wilson et al., page 7, claim 1), comprising: identifying a set

of country hosts for a plurality of websites, each country host having a country-related

domain (see Wilson et al., ¶ 65-70); assigning a countrytag to each country host that

corresponds to the country-related domain for the respective country host (see Wilson

et al., ¶ 60-64); identifying a set of global hosts for a plurality of websites, each global

host not having a country-related domain (see Wilson et al., ¶ 11). But fails to teach

analyzing one or more inlinks to at least one global host from the set of global host to

determine a countrytag for the at least one global host; and producing an augmented

set of hosts that includes the set of country hosts, the at least one global host, and the

corresponding countrytags for each country host and the at least one global host.

However, Zha et al. teaches analyzing one or more inlinks to at least one global host

from the set of global host to determine a countrytag for the at least one global host

(see Zha et al., col. 10, lines 8-29); and producing an augmented set of hosts that

includes the set of country hosts, the at least one global host, and the corresponding

countrytags for each country host and the at least one global host (see Zha et al., col.

10, lines 30-47). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the

time of the invention to modify Wilson et al. to analyzing one or more inlinks to at least

one global host from the set of global host to determine a countrytag for the at least one

global host; and producing an augmented set of hosts that includes the set of country

hosts, the at least one global host, and the corresponding countrytags for each country

host and the at least one global host in order to compensate for regional differences by

associating documents with classification values and ranking documents based on

classification weights (see Zha et al., col. 1, line 52-col. 2, line 10).

7.   As per claim 2, Wilson et al. and Zha et al. teach a method, wherein the country-

related domain is a top-level domain (see Wilson et al., ¶ 24).

8.   As per claim 3, Wilson et al. and Zha et al. teach a method, further comprising:

crawling the network to gather information about the pages or sites in the network,

including the top-level domain and connectivity of the crawled sites (see Wilson et al., ¶

39: wherein searching serves the function of crawling).

9.   As per claim 4, Wilson et al. and Zha et al. teach a method, wherein the network

is the Internet (see Wilson et al., ¶ 27).

10.   As per claim 20, Wilson et al. and Zha et al. teach a method, wherein a different

test is used to determine if a website should be assigned a "US" countrytag than is used

for assigning countrytags of non-US countries (see Wilson et al., ¶ 9).

11.   As per claim 21, Wilson et al. and Zha et al. teach a method, wherein a website

can be assigned more than one countrytag (see Wilson et al., ¶ 82).

12.   Claims 5 and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over

Wilson et al. and Zha et al. as applied to claim 24 above, and further in view of

Schuetze et al. (6,941,321).

13.   As per claim 5, Wilson et al. and Zha et al. teach the mentioned limitations of

claim 24 above, but fail to teach a method, wherein the network is an intranet. However,

Schuetze et al. teaches a method, wherein the network is an intranet (see Schuetze et

al., col. 10, lines 9-18). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Wilson et al. and Zha et al. to a method, wherein the network is an intranet to serve a company's internal purposes (see Schuetze et al., col. 1, lines 35-40).

14.   As per claim 6, Wilson et al. and Zha et al. teach the mentioned limitations of claim 24 above, and furthermore Wilson et al. teaches a method wherein said analyzing comprises at least on country host from the set of country hosts (see Wilson et al., ¶ 60-70). But fails to teach analyzing one or more inlinks. However, Schuetze et al. teaches analyzing one or more inlinks (see Schuetze et al., col. 2, lines 43-56). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Zha et al. and Wilson et al. to analyzing one or more inlinks in order to advantageously employ a framework to enhance browsing, searching, retrieving and recommending content in a collection of documents (see Schuetze et al., col. 5, lines 43-47).

15.   Claims 7, 9, 11, and 16 rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Wilson et al. and Zha et al. as applied to claim 1 above, and further in view of Pitkow et al. (2002/0016786).

16.   As per claim 7, Wilson et al. and Zha et al. teach the mentioned limitations of claim 24 above but fail to teach a method of analyzing inlinks to and outlinks from the at. least one global host. However, Pitkow et al. teaches a method of analyzing inlinks to and outlinks from the at least one global host (see Pitkow et al., ¶ 20). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify

Wilson et al. and Zha et al. to a method of analyzing inlinks to and outlinks from the at

least one global host in order to build up a relevance profile for each individual and/or

group and map that profile in accordance with a determined relevance model to

collection content (see Pitkow et al., ¶ 120).

17.   As per claim 9, Wilson et al. and Zha et al. teach the mentioned limitations of

claims 24 and 8 above but fail to teach a method, wherein the predetermined number is

10. However, Pitkow et al. teaches a method, wherein the predetermined number is 10

(see Pitkow et al., ¶ 118). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the

art at the time of the invention to modify Wilson et al. and Zha et al. to a method,

wherein the predetermined number is 10 in order to provide more directly relevant

search results to that particular user (see Pitkow et al., ¶ 119).

18.   As per claim 11, Wilson et al. and Zha et al. teach the mentioned limitations of

claims 24 and 7 above but fail to teach a method of wherein said analyzing comprises

determining whether a root or default document page for the at least one global host

exists in one and only one ODP country section. However, Pitkow et al. teaches a

method of wherein said analyzing comprises determining whether a root or default

document page for the at least one global host exists in one and only one ODP country

section. (see Pitkow et al., ¶ 118). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary

skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Wilson et al. and Zha et al. to a

method of wherein said analyzing comprises determining whether a root or default

document page for the at least one global host exists in one and only one ODP country

section in order to provide more directly relevant search results to that particular user

(see Pitkow et al., ¶ 119).

19.   As per claim 16, Wilson et al. and Zha et al. teach the mentioned limitations of

claims 24 and 7 above but fail to teach a method, further comprising: summing unique

inlinking hosts and outlinking hosts in the augmented set. However, Pitkow et al.

teaches a method, further comprising: summing unique inlinking hosts and outlinking

hosts in the augmented set (see Pitkow et al., ¶ 103). It would have been obvious to

one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Wilson et al. and

Zha et al. to a method, further comprising: summing unique inlinking hosts and

outlinking hosts in the augmented set in order to provide a user with a "substitute"

bookmark when a preferred document is unavailable (see Pitkow et al., ¶ 102).

20.   Claims 10, 14, and 15 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being

unpatentable over Wilson et al., Zha et al., Schuetze et al., and Pitkow et al.

21.   As per claim 10, Wilson et al., Zha et al., and Pitkow et al. teach the mentioned

limitations of claims 24 and 8 above but Wilson et al. and Pitkow et al. fail to teach a

method, wherein the predetermined percentage is 60%. However, Schuetze et al.

teaches a method, wherein the predetermined percentage is 60% (see Schuetze et al.,

col. 29, line 54-col. 30, line 7: wherein it would be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the

art at the time of the invention to change the predetermined percentage). It would have

been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify

Wilson et al., Zha et al., and Pitkow et al. to a method, wherein the predetermined

percentage is 60% in order for quantitatively representing users in a user population,

quantitatively determining similarity between users, clustering users according to those

similarities, and visually representing clusters of users by analogy to clusters of

documents (see Schuetze et al., abstract).

22.   As per claim 14, Wilson et al., Zha et al., and Pitkow et al. teach the mentioned

limitations of claims 24 and 13 above but Wilson et al. and Pitkow et al. fail to teach a

method, wherein the first predetermined percentage is 40%. However, Schuetze et al.

teaches a method, wherein the first predetermined percentage is 40% (see Schuetze et

al., col. 29, line 54-col. 30, line 7: wherein it would be obvious to one of ordinary skill in

the art at the time of the invention to change the predetermined percentage). It would

have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to

modify Wilson et al., Zha et al., and Pitkow et al. to a method, wherein the first

predetermined percentage is 40% in order for quantitatively representing users in a user

population, quantitatively determining similarity between users, clustering users

according to those similarities, and visually representing clusters of users by analogy to

clusters of documents (see Schuetze et al., abstract).

23.   As per claim 15, Wilson et al., Zha et al., and Pitkow et al. teach the mentioned

limitations of claims 24 and 13 above but Wilson et al. and Pitkow et al. fail to teach a

method, wherein the second predetermined percentage is 32%. However, Schuetze et

al. teaches a method, wherein the second predetermined percentage is 32% (see

Schuetze et al., col. 29, line 54-col. 30, line 7: wherein it would be obvious to one of

ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to change the predetermined

percentage). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the

time of the invention to modify Wilson et al., Zha et al. and Pitkow et al. to a method,

wherein the second predetermined percentage is 32% in order for quantitatively

representing users in a user population, quantitatively determining similarity between

users, clustering users according to those similarities, and visually representing clusters

of users by analogy to clusters of documents (see Schuetze et al., abstract).

24.   Claims 12 and 19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable

over Wilson et al., Zha et al., and Pitkow et al. as applied to claims 1 and 7 above, and

further in view of Lakritz (6,526,426).

25.   As per claim 12, Wilson et al. and Zha et al. teach the mentioned limitations of

claims 24 and 7 above but fail to teach a method wherein said analyzing comprises

determining whether the at least one global host is marked for manual countrytagging.

However, Lakritz teaches a method wherein said analyzing comprises determining

whether the at least one global host is marked for manual countrytagging (see Lakritz,

col. 4, lines 27-38). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at

the time of the invention to modify Wilson et al. and Zha et al. to a method wherein said

analyzing comprises determining whether the at least one global host is marked for

manual countrytagging in order to allow the most appropriate language of a requested

document to be served to a Web browser (see Lakritz, col. 15, lines 59-61).

26.   As per claim 19, Wilson et al. and Zha et al. teach the mentioned limitations of

claim 24 above but fail to teach a method, further comprising: determining a countrytag

for a web subsite. However, Lakritz teaches a method, further comprising determining a

countrytag for a web subsite (see Lakritz, col. 6, lines 28-42). It would have been

obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify

Wilson et al. and Zha et al. to a method, further comprising determining a countrytag for

a web subsite in order to allow a multilingual web site to be built incrementally (see

Lakritz, col. 6, lines 14-18).

27.   Claims 22 and 23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable

over Zha et al. and Pitkow et al. (7,031,961)

28.   As per claim 22, Zha et al. teaches a method of determining whether a web site

is of interest to users in a particular country, comprising: assigning a countrytag to a

global host of the web site when all of the following are true (see Zha et al., col. 3, lines

5-21): there are more unique inlinking hosts from country code top-level domains than

from global domains (see Zha et al., col. 9, lines 38-44), there are more than a

predetermined number of unique inlinking hosts from country code top-level domains

(see Zha et al., col. 9, lines 45-57), and there are more than a predetermined diversity

of unique inlinking hosts from a same country code top-level domain (see Zha et al., col.

9, line 58-col. 10, line 7). But fails to teach a percentage. However, Pitkow et al. teaches

popularity percentage (see Pitkow et al., col. 7, lines 20-34). It would have been obvious

to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Zha et al. to

teach percentages in order to provide more directly relevant search results to that

particular user (see Pitkow et al., col. 20, lines 4-19).

29.   As per claim 23, Zha et al. teaches a method of determining whether a web site

is of interest to users in a particular country, comprising: assigning a countrytag to a

global host of the web site when all of the following three tests are true (see Zha et al.,

col. 3, lines 5-21): there are more than a first predetermined diversity of unique inlinking

hosts from a same country code top-level domain (see Zha et al., col. 9, lines 38-44), a

particular country code top-level domain accounts for more than a second

predetermined diversity of non-global unique inlinking hosts (see Zha et al., col. 9, lines

45-57), and the number of inlinking hosts from a particular country is more than a

predetermined threshold value (see Zha et al., col. 9, line 58-col. 10, line 7). But fails to

teach a percentage. However, Pitkow et al. teaches popularity percentage (see Pitkow

et al., col. 7, lines 20-34). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the

art at the time of the invention to modify Zha et al. to teach percentages in order to

provide more directly relevant search results to that particular user (see Pitkow et al.,

col. 20, lines 4-19).

30.   Claims 17 and 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable

over Wilson et al., Zha et al., and Pitkow et al. as applied to claims 24 and 7 above, and

further in view of Page (6,285,999).

31.   As per claim 17, Wilson et al., Zha et al., and Pitkow et al. teach the mentioned

limitations of claims 24 and 7 above but fail to teach a method, further comprising:

adding extra points to a voting value for a country when a name of a non-global host

suggests that country. However, Page teaches a method, further comprising: adding

extra points to a voting value for a country when a name of a non-global host suggests that country (see Page, col. 9, lines 15-22). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Wilson et al., Zha et al., and Pitkow et al. to a method, further comprising: adding extra points to a voting value for a country when a name of a non-global host suggests that country in order to provide a document ranking method that is scalable and can be applied to extremely large databases such as the world wide web (see Page, col. 2, lines 39-50).
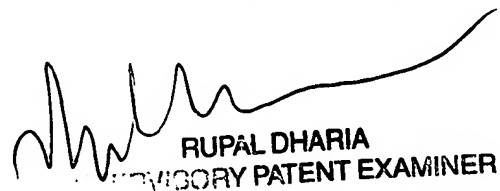
32.   As per claim 18, Wilson et al., Zha et al., and Pitkow et al. teach the mentioned limitations of claims 24 and 7 above but fail to teach a method, further comprising: adding extra points to a voting value for a country when an IP address of the host is in that country. However, Page teaches a method, further comprising: adding extra points to a voting value for a country when an IP address of the host is in that country (see Page, col. 9, lines 15-22). It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify Wilson et al., Zha et al., and Pitkow et al. to a method, further comprising: adding extra points to a voting value for a country when an IP address of the host is in that country in order to provide a document ranking method that is scalable and can be applied to extremely large databases such as the world wide web (see Page, col. 2, lines 39-50).

33.   Claims 8 and 13 have similar limitations as to claims 2-24 above; therefore, they are being rejected under the same rationale.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ranodhi Serrao whose telephone number is (571)272-7967. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00-4:30pm, M-F.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Rupal Dharia can be reached on (571)272-3880. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

RUPAL DHARIA
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER